



NDA 21-241

Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, L.L.C.
Attention: Ramon Polo, Ph.D.
Director, Regulatory Affairs
920 Route 202 South
P.O. Box 300
Raritan, NJ 08869-0602

Dear Dr. Polo:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated August 25, 2001, received August 25, 2000, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for ORTHO TRI-CYCLEN® Lo (norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol) Tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated November 8 and 21 and December 15, 2000; January 11, 22, 25 and 26, February 8 and 26, March 1, April 5 and 10, May 11, 25, 29 and 31, June 1, 7, 8, 18, 19, 22 and 25, July 3, August 3, and December 21, 2001 and June 25, August 16 and 19, 2002. Your submission of June 25, 2002 constituted a complete response to our June 25, 2001 action letter.

This new drug application provides for the use of ORTHO TRI-CYCLEN® Lo (norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol) Tablets for the prevention of pregnancy in women who elect to use oral contraceptives as a method of contraception.

We have completed the review of this application, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the agreed upon enclosed labeling text. Accordingly, the application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, text for the patient package insert). Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

Please submit the copies of final printed labeling (FPL) electronically according to the guidance for industry titled *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format - NDA* (January 1999). Alternatively, you may submit 20 paper copies of the FPL as soon as it is available but no more than 30 days after it is printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FPL for approved NDA 21-241." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Validation of the regulatory methods has not been completed. At the present time, it is the policy of the Center not to withhold approval because the methods are being validated. Nevertheless, we expect

your continued cooperation to resolve any problems that may be identified.

Be advised that, as of April 1, 1999, all applications for new active ingredients, new dosage forms, new indications, new routes of administration, and new dosing regimens are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived or deferred (63 *FR* 66632). We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for this action on this application.

In addition, please submit three copies of the introductory promotional materials that you propose to use for this product. All proposed materials should be submitted in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Please submit one copy to this Division and two copies of both the promotional materials and the package insert directly to:

Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications, HFD-42
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available.

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, call Jennifer Mercier, B.S., Regulatory Health Project Manager, at (301) 827-4260.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Daniel Shames, M.D.
Director
Division of Reproductive and Urologic Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation III
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure

ORTHO TRI-CYCLEN® Lo Tablets
(norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol)

**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and
this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.**

/s/

Daniel A. Shames

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